

# Crab pot buoy stickers required to limit pots

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced that it will begin charging commercial king and tanner crab fishermen for crab pot buoy stickers.

These stickers are required in fisheries where the number of pots or rings a fisherman can use is limited. They identify who the owner of a crab pot is and help ensure that fishermen comply with limitations on the number of pots.

Fisheries affected are those located in southeastern Alaska, Yakutat, Prince William Sound, Cook Inlet, and Kodiak.

The stickers will cost between \$1.00 and \$1.50 each and can be purchased at Fish and Game offices in affected areas.

The state legislature authorized the

department to charge for king crab pot stickers in 1977. That authority was later expanded to cover tanner crab pot stickers.

The department has not previously charged for these stickers because few pot limits were in place. However, upon the recommendation of fishermen, the Board of Fisheries recently expanded the number of fisheries with pot limits.

Because the department had not budgeted for sticker systems for these fisheries, the board encouraged the department to implement a system to recover the costs of administering the system.

Money received from the purchase of stickers will be used to pay for the printing of the stickers, plus a minimal administrative fee.